

PEDESTRIANISM IN THE EAST.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

SIR: Your issue of yesterday contains an article headed "Danger of Pedestrianism in the East," written by "a former resident of Jerusalem," as there have been misprints of the facts in several papers the letter seems to call for the following statements: The walk was made in 11 days, on three of which only three hours were occupied to travel. On the other eight days from five to 11 hours' walking was done. The distance, by the course taken, is about 300 miles. Beside the pedestrian there was, of course, work done incident to the scientific objects of the expedition. The pedestrian was sent from home partly to recover health lost by extreme overwork, and during three months previous to this trip had ridden from place to place in Egypt and Palestine without much gain. At the close of this walk he was stronger than he had been for years. The tramp was made to ascertain the practicability of pedestrianism for geological and botanical surveys, and is believed to have accomplished results which will bear rich fruit. On surveys made in such severe walking need not do damage, and yet the work may be far more thorough than would otherwise be possible.

Tourists passing over the same route with horses often occupy more than twelve days instead of less than that number. The reason of this slow rate is, there being no hotels, tents must be used. Tents are carried on pack horses, which must go slow, and the traveler being nearly every night dependent on the tents, cannot go faster than the pack horses. Further, the roads are so rugged that average riders could not go much faster than the tents, even if they were unencumbered by them. I should again walk instead of ride, as a matter of choice, under similar circumstances.

New York, Aug. 29, 1873. GEO. MAY POWELL.

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